Assistance to Andhra Pradesh for floods and cyclone

163. DR.Y. LAKSHM1 PRASAD:
SHRI SOL1PETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 1967, given in the Rajya Sabha on the 7th December, 2001 and state:

(a) whether Government have considered the report of the Central Team which visited Andhra Pradesh to assess the damage caused by floods and cyclone;

(b) if so, the Central assistance given to that State in view of the damage caused by floods and cyclone last year;

(c) the additional assistance demanded by the State; and

(d) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (d) Assistance from the National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) was considered by the High Level Committee (HLC), in its meeting held on 28.12.2001 and, taking into account the request of the State Government, the report of the Central Team and the recommendations of the Inter Ministerial Group (IMG) thereon, the HLC approved an assistance of Rs.20.44 crore from NCCF for Andhra Pradesh, which has been released to the State.

Integration of disaster mitigation and developmental planning in Gujarat

164. SHRI N ARENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether, having taken stock of relief and rehabilitation measures for a year in the earthquake ravaged Gujarat, there is an urgent need to integrate disaster mitigation with development planning which should include the needs of the most vulnerable sections of the society;

(b) if so, whether Government are thinking of evolving such an integrated programme; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) It is primarily the responsibility of the State Government concerned to take necessary relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction measures in the wake of natural calamities. Subsequent to the earthquake of 26th January, 2001 the Government of Gujarat has set up the Gujarat State Disaster Management Authority (GSDMA) to coordinate the massive rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts. According to available information, an expenditure of Rs.684 crore has been incurred on various relief activites in the wake of the earthquake. Steps have also been initiated by the State Government for rehabilitation and reconstruction of the affected sectors and sufficient progress has been achieved.

In addition to release of Central share of Calamity Relief Fund, assistance from the National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) amounting to Rs. 1467.37 crore was released to Gujarat in the wake of earthquake. It may also be mentioned that a number of programmes/schemes are implemented by various Central Ministries/Departments and the State Government towards long-term measures for rehabilitation of the affected sectors. The Eleventh Finance Commission has also recommended that restoration of works of capital nature damaged during the natural calamity *viz.* roads, bridges, power houses and other public works should ordinarily be met from normal budgetary heads except when it is to be incurred as part of providing immediate relief.

Diversification of crops, livestock and fisheries in A.P.

165. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Andhra Pradesh Government has approached the Union Government to extend full support and provide funds for its efforts to diversify crops, livestock and fishery enterprises, to match the emerging demand patterns;

(b) if so, the details of the requirements of the State in this regard; and

(c) whether necessary funds have been released; if so, when and if not, by when the same are expected to be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) No Sir, no specific